

ENTOMOLOGY.—*Three Japanese beetles of the genus Serica Macleay.*¹ EDWARD A. CHAPIN, U. S. National Museum.

In 1927, a few specimens of a *Serica*, obviously not a described American species, were taken by Mr. H. C. Hallock at Westbury, L. I. In succeeding years additional specimens were found at the same locality. The species was erroneously determined in 1928 as *Serica similis* Lewis and has appeared in the recent literature under that name. It was later also erroneously determined as *Serica brunnea* Linn. and has been so recorded in print. Doubt was cast on the specific determination of the form in 1936 and specimens of two related species were sent to the British Museum for comparison with Lewis' type. Word came from Mr. G. J. Arrow that neither of the two species sent agreed with the type of *S. similis*. Two specimens from the type series of *similis* were kindly loaned the writer for study; one of these was believed by Mr. Arrow to be the same as the type, the other apparently different and perhaps the Long Island form. Mr. Arrow also supplied a pencil sketch of the aedeagus of the type for further assistance.

The dissection of the two specimens from the British Museum type series shows that they belong to two species, one of which is *S. similis* Lewis, and the other a species different from both *similis* and the Long Island form. Further search of the National Museum collection yielded a single male collected at Yokohama by Kobayashi that is undoubtedly the same as the Long Island species, which fact tends to establish the original habitat of the Long Island species as Japan. There are, therefore, at least three Japanese species which have been confused under the name *Serica similis* Lewis.

Serica similis Lewis

Serica similis Lewis, 1895, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., Ser. 6, vol. 16, p. 391.

Male: Elongate subparallel, not strongly convex above. Color medium dark brown with frons and vertex nearly black. Clypeus strongly shining, sides straight and convergent anteriorly. Notches between clypeus and labrum not evident. Labrum bilobed with median angulation broad and moderately deep. Surface of head moderately coarsely and rather sparsely punctured. Antennae 9-segmented, the three segmented club more than three times as long as the five preceding segments combined. Eyes relatively large and convex. Pronotum a little more than twice as wide as its length along median line, posterior angles rounded, anterior produced and acute, lateral margins evenly curved. Surface slightly more densely and coarsely punctured than frons. Scutellum elongate triangular with punctation similar to that of pronotum. Elytra each with nine well impressed grooves which are

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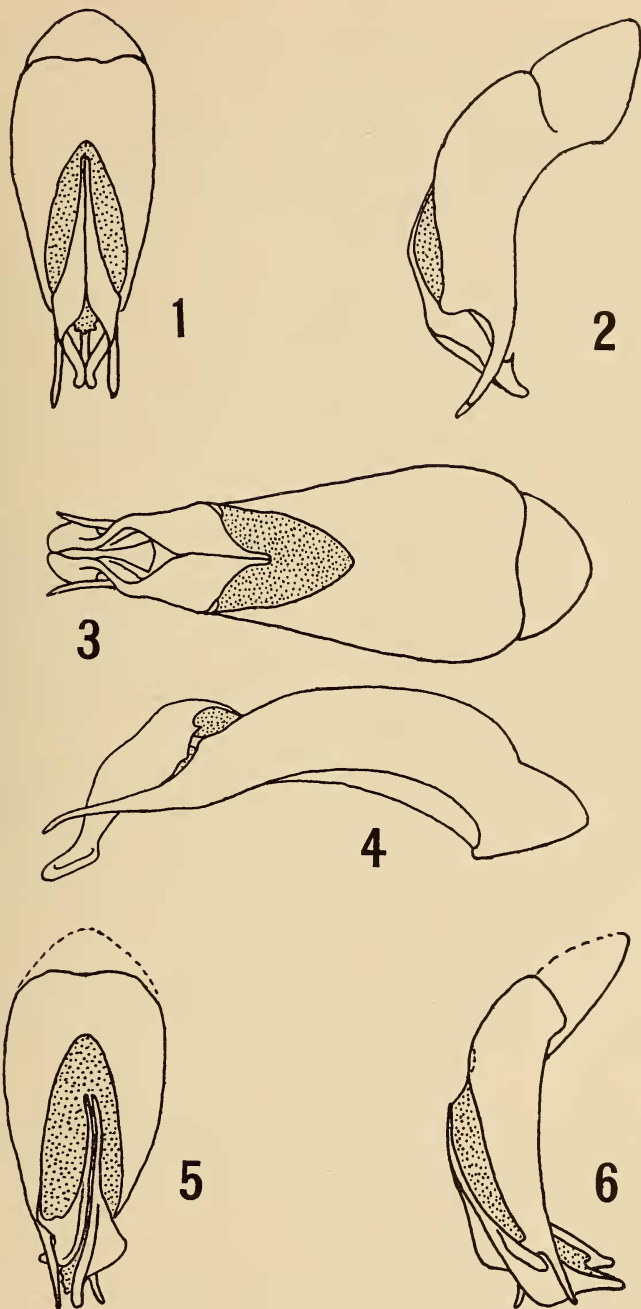


FIG. 1.—*Serica similis* Lewis. Aedeagus, dorsal view. Fig. 2.—*S. similis* Lewis, idem, lateral view. Fig. 3.—*S. peregrina*, n. sp., idem, dorsal view. Fig. 4.—*S. peregrina*, n. sp., idem, lateral view. Fig. 5.—*S. lewisi*, n. sp., idem, dorsal view. Fig. 6.—*S. lewisi*, n. sp., idem, lateral view.

finely and densely punctured, intervals convex without punctures, epipleura narrow, abruptly terminated at apical truncation, with a single row of short setae. Pygidium subtriangular, slightly convex, coarsely and moderately densely punctured. Under parts of thorax and posterior coxae with punctation similar to that of pronotum. First and second visible sternites with transverse, median patches of setae, third with a few setae at midline. In addition to the dense patches, each sternite has a single row of setae extending to lateral margins. Aedeagus, figures 1, 2. Length: male 8.5 mm.

Type: in the British Museum.

Type locality: Japan, "Nagasaki, Hitoyoshi, Nikko and on the Wadatogé."

Material examined: A male from the type series loaned for study by the British Museum. The specimen bears the locality label "S. Japan" only.

The Hitoyoshi specimen has been withdrawn from this species and is made the type of a new species described below. The Nikko specimen is probably also different from *similis* as it comes from the mountainous part of Nippon Island.

Serica peregrina, n. sp.

Serica brunnea Waterhouse, 1875, Trans. Ent. Soc. London, p. 101 in part (synonymy according to G. J. Arrow in letter to writer); Schaeffer, 1931, Bull. Brooklyn Ent. Soc., vol. 26, p. 176 (not *S. brunnea* L. 1758).

Serica similis Hallock, 1929, Journ. Econ. Ent., vol. 22, p. 299; Sim, 1932, Journ. N.Y. Ent. Soc., vol. 40, p. 381, Pl. 15; Schaeffer, 1932, Bull. Brooklyn Ent. Soc., vol. 27, p. 50 (not *S. similis* Lewis 1895).

Male: externally essentially the same as *S. similis* Lewis. Coloration pale yellowish brown, sides of pronotum less curved and with anterior angles usually perceptibly more abrupt. Aedeagus, figs. 3, 4.

Female: more robust than male. Eyes proportionately smaller, antennal club shorter, not twice as long as preceding five segments combined. First visible sternite alone with patch of dense setae. Anterior tibia less slender.

Length: male 8-8.5 mm, female 9 mm.

Type and paratypes: U. S. National Museum Cat. No. 52294, paratypes in the British Museum.

Type locality: Long Island, N. Y. (type from Westbury, paratypes from Westbury and Douglaston).

Material examined: 40 male and 5 female specimens from the above locality, collected by Mr. H. C. Hallock during June and July. Also a single male from Yokohama, Island of Nippon, Japan, collected by Kobayashi.

Serica lewisi, n. sp.

Male: externally essentially the same as *S. similis* Lewis. Coloration paler, yellowish brown with frons and vertex only slightly darker than rest of body. Punctuation of pronotum less deeply impressed than in *similis*. Aedeagus, figs. 5, 6.

Length: male 8.5 mm.

Type: in the British Museum.

Type locality: Japan Hitoyoshi, Island of Kyushu, May 15-17, 1881.

Material examined: A male from the G. Lewis collection, loaned for study by the British Museum (withdrawn from the type series of *S. similis* Lewis).

While externally similar to the two preceding species, the aedeagus of this species is asymmetrical and in this respect quite different from either.